

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/912,188

Examiner

Tran A. Quoc

Applicant(s)

BAILEY ET AL.

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 11-30-2006 and interview on 02-12-2007.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 40, 35-36 and 50-51 (renumbering as 1-5 respectively).

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 2-19-2007.

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____

William L. Bashore
WILLIAM BASHORE

PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Scott R. Hansen, Attorney for Applicant(s) on 02-12-2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 1-34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[27]]~~ 49 wherein information within the non-executable data file completely controls which fields will be presented to the user for tailoring the user's selected product.

36. (Currently Amended) A computer readable media capable of causing a general purpose computer to implement the method of claim ~~[[27]]~~ 49.

Claims 37-48. (Cancelled)

Claim 49. (Currently Amended) A method of allowing a user to select a customizable, printable paper product from a menu of possible products, tailor the chosen product according to the user's personal preferences, and view the tailored product on a computer display before the tailored product is created, the method allowing for easy updating and maintaining a selection of products available to a user without a need to change an executable software application program, the method comprising:

presenting on a computer screen a list of available printable paper products and receiving from a user in response thereto a product selection defining a user's selected product;

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retrieving product data from at least one non-executable data file according to the user's printable paper product selection;

presenting on the computer screen a plurality of fields for the user to input printable paper product tailoring information, the fields being determined by the product data within the non-executable data file;

presenting on the computer screen a preview of the user's selected printable paper product, the product being reflective of the product data retrieved from the non-executable data file and the product tailoring information input by the user;

wherein the data file further includes default product tailoring information, the default tailoring information containing default graphics and default text, and wherein the available products include a first group of products, the first group of products all having a common SKU number but different default tailoring information, and a second group of products which may include a member of the first group of products, the second group of products having different SKU numbers;

wherein the non-executable data files are selected from the group consisting of binary files, Java BeansTM, and XML files, and the computer screen displays a world wide web page, the computer screen displaying simultaneously the plurality of fields and the product preview illustrating the product tailored according to the product tailoring information input by the user; and

wherein information within the non-executable data file controls which fields will be presented to the user for tailoring the user's selected printable paper product.

Claim 50. (Previously presented) A method as defined in claim 49, wherein the method further comprises, after the step of presenting on the computer screen a preview of the user's selected printable paper product, the step of printing the printable paper product in a printer at a user's workstation.

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Claim 51. (Previously presented) A method as defined in claim 49, wherein the paper product comprises one of the group constituting invitations, business cards, posters, point-of-sale displays, advertising materials, coupons, event announcements, and stationary.

Claim 52. (Cancelled)

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Claims 35-36, 40, and 50-51 are allowed over the prior art of record.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

In interpreting the claims in light of the specification and applicant's Amendment filed 11-30-2006 and telephone interview with Mr. Devon K. Grant, Attorney for Applicant(s) on 02-12-2007. Examiner finds the claimed invention is patentably distinct from the prior art of record.

The prior art of record Barzilai et al US006012045A - filed 07/01/1997, in view of Hess et al. US006732161B1 - filed 11/09/1999 further view of Tackbary et al. US006873971B1 filed 03/15/2000, and Jetcha et al. US006631375B2 - filed 12/02/1998 (hereinafter Jetcha), in view of Gever et al. US006313835B1 - filed 04/09/1999, which set forth in the previous rejection mailed on 05-22-2006.

The prior art of record taught most of the Applicant's claimed limitation, but to do not expressly teach "default product tailoring information, the default tailoring information containing default graphics and default text, and wherein the available products include a first group of products, the first group of products all having a common SKU number but different default tailoring information, and a second group of

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products which may include a member of the first group of products, the second group of products having different SKU numbers" (see the Application invention amendment filed 11-30-2006).

In addition, the examiner interprets, Applicant invention is associates with method of customizing and printing documents that support a product lines having a plurality customizes product utilizing the WWW and printed at user's station or remote printer on a network, and using JavaBean descriptive files to represent products within a product line. Such files may be called "project objects," "product object files", "SKU object files" and contain descriptive product data therein. A specific SKU may also contain project XML file information; identifying which project XML files are compatible with the product. "Project XML files," as used herein, denotes files that contain project-specific information such as user prompts, fields, and the like, that will be presented to a user during the customization process (see claim 49 page 5-top and Applicant invention para 14, and 37 also fig. 2).

The Examiner asserts that the claims overcome the prior art of record when the limitations are read in combination with the respective claimed limitations in their entirety.

The dependent claims, being further limiting to the independent claims, definite and enabled by the Specification are also allowed.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quoc A. Tran whose telephone number is 571-272-8664. The examiner can normally be reached on 9AM - 5PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Herndon R. Heather can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Quoc A. Tran
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2176
February 20, 2007

William F. Bashore
WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER